

We claim:

1. A security system reader comprising:  
a transceiver that transmits a stimulus signal  
5 and that receives a signal containing an authentication  
code; and,  
a processor that determines whether the  
received authentication code is from a badge or a  
fingerprint keyfob, and that performs an authentication  
10 of the authentication code dependent upon whether the  
authentication code is from the badge or from the  
fingerprint keyfob.
2. The security system reader of claim 1  
15 wherein the authentication code from the fingerprint  
keyfob comprises a fingerprint signature and an  
identifier, and wherein the processor is arranged to  
perform an authentication of the authentication code  
based upon both the fingerprint signature and the  
20 identifier in the authentication code from the  
fingerprint keyfob.

3. The security system reader of claim 2  
wherein the identifier in the authentication code from  
the fingerprint keyfob comprises a rolling identifier.

5 4. The security system reader of claim 2  
wherein the fingerprint signature comprises a digitized  
fingerprint signature.

5. The security system reader of claim 2  
10 wherein the processor compares the fingerprint signature  
to fingerprint signatures in a list of fingerprint  
signatures and also compares the identifier in the  
authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob to an  
identifier maintained by the processor.

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6. The security system reader of claim 5  
wherein the identifier in the authentication code from  
the fingerprint keyfob comprises a rolling identifier,  
and wherein the processor compares the rolling identifier  
20 in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob to  
a rolling identifier maintained by the processor.

7. A method of providing access comprising:  
receiving a signal containing an authentication  
code;

determining whether the authentication code is  
5 from a badge or a fingerprint keyfob;

determining whether the authentication code is  
authentic dependent upon whether the authentication code  
is from the badge or from the fingerprint keyfob; and,  
if the authentication code is authentic,  
10 permitting access.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein the  
authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob comprises  
a fingerprint signature and an identifier, and wherein  
15 the determining of whether the authentication code is  
authentic comprises determining whether both the  
fingerprint signature and the identifier in the  
authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob are  
authentic.

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9. The method of claim 8 wherein the  
identifier in the authentication code from the  
fingerprint keyfob comprises a rolling identifier.

10. The method of claim 8 wherein the fingerprint signature comprises a digitized fingerprint signature.

5           11. The method of claim 8 wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is authentic comprises:

          comparing the fingerprint signature to fingerprint signatures in a list of fingerprint  
10 signatures; and,

          comparing the identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob to a separately maintained identifier.

15           12. The method of claim 11 wherein the identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob comprises a rolling identifier, and wherein the comparing of the identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob to a  
20 separately maintained identifier comprises comparing the rolling identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob to a separately generated rolling identifier.

13. The method of claim 7 further comprising transmitting a stimulus signal that causes at least one of the badge and the keyfob to transmit the signal containing the authentication code.

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14. A method of providing access comprising:  
receiving a signal containing an authentication code;

determining whether the authentication code is  
10 from a badge or a keyfob;

determining whether the authentication code is authentic; and,

if the authentication code is authentic,  
permitting access.

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15. The method of claim 14 further comprising transmitting a stimulus signal that causes at least one of the badge and the keyfob to transmit the signal containing the authentication code.

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16. The method of claim 14 wherein the authentication code from the keyfob comprises first and second portions, wherein the first and second portions are different types of codes, and wherein the determining

of whether the authentication code is authentic comprises determining whether both the first and second portions are authentic.

5           17. The method of claim 16 wherein the first portion comprises a rolling identifier.

          18. The method of claim 16 wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is  
10 authentic comprises:

          comparing the first portion to a list; and,  
          comparing the second portion to a separately maintained code.

15           19. The method of claim 18 wherein the second portion comprises a rolling identifier, and wherein the comparing of the second portion to a separately maintained code comprises comparing the rolling identifier to a separately generated rolling identifier.

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          20. The method of claim 14 wherein the authentication code from the keyfob comprises a fingerprint signature and an identifier, and wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is

authentic comprises determining whether both the  
fingerprint signature and the identifier are authentic.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein the  
5 identifier in the authentication code from the keyfob  
comprises a rolling identifier.

22. The method of claim 20 wherein the  
fingerprint signature comprises a digitized the  
10 fingerprint signature.

23. The method of claim 20 wherein the  
determining of whether the authentication code is  
authentic comprises:

15 comparing the fingerprint signature to  
fingerprint signatures in a list of fingerprint  
signatures; and,

comparing the identifier in the authentication  
code from the keyfob to a separately maintained  
20 identifier.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein the  
identifier in the authentication code from the keyfob  
comprises a rolling identifier, and wherein the comparing

of the identifier in the authentication code from the keyfob to a separately maintained identifier comprises comparing the rolling identifier to a separately generated rolling identifier.

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